

9,000 Bodies of American Soldiers Back From France

1,000 More Await Shipment at French Ports; Removal Work Expected To Be Completed Next Summer

PARIS, Nov. 9.—Nearly nine thousand bodies of American soldiers who died or were killed in France during the war have been shipped to the United States and turned over to their nearest relatives, and one thousand more await shipment at French ports, the United States Graves Registration Service announced today. The work of removing the bodies of fallen Americans will be completed by next summer, and plans have been formulated for materially increasing the working staffs and facilitating operations.

Nearly 60 per cent of all the bodies of American officers and enlisted men buried in French soil will be returned to the United States, according to recent estimates. At frequent intervals parents and wives of dead soldiers have come to France to remove the remains of their relatives, but, upon seeing the cemeteries here and learning of the extreme care taken of them, have decided upon France as the final resting place for the fallen.

The exhumation of bodies within the war zone began on September 15, and since then work has been completed in seventeen cemeteries. Operations at Bony, the first of the big American cemeteries, will begin next Saturday, and 25 per cent of the men buried there will begin operations in Belgium next winter in order to complete the removals by next summer. The task of exhuming the bodies of soldiers buried in Great Britain was finished three weeks ago, 50 per cent of them being shipped to the United States.

Removal of bodies from occupied areas in Germany and Luxembourg has just been completed, and all of them were sent to America. Working forces will begin operations in Belgium next month, and from cemeteries in that country 1,000 bodies will be removed. The work of exhuming bodies in the Brest, Bordeaux and St. Lazare areas has been completed, and the removal of the bodies of the Americans will be concentrated on the bodies of the British. The first of the uniform headstones recently decided upon by the War Memorial Council will be set in the four permanent cemeteries until next autumn.

Poilu's Body to Rest At Arc de Triomphe

France Will Honor Fallen Heroes in Armistice Day Celebration

VERDUN, France, Nov. 9.—The bodies of eight unidentified French soldiers, exhumed from as many sectors of the former battle line, from the Belgian frontier to the Vosges, arrived at the Verdun citadel today. From among these Minister of Pensions Maginot will tomorrow request a private soldier to choose one body, which will then be transported to Paris to be laid finally at rest beneath the Arc de Triomphe in Thursday's Armistice Day celebration, as a symbol of the thousands of poilus who sacrificed their lives for France in the great war.

The seven other bodies will be buried with military honors on the Verdun battlefield.

It was originally intended to disinter nine bodies, but in one sector of the front, which the military authorities refuse to divulge, German and French bodies were buried in common graves and are so closely intermingled that the officers in charge of the work of exhumation decided it would be unsafe to disinter a body there, as the honor of burial beneath the Arc de Triomphe might quite as likely be afforded to a former enemy soldier as to a gallant poilu.

Long after the last body had disappeared behind the battered walls and the famous fortress gates had been closed and night was settling silent, burghed crowds awaited the coming of the ninth body, dispersing only when the commander of the fortress informed them that no more bodies would arrive.

Raw Sugar Price Drops To 6 1/4 Cents a Pound

Retail Quotations Expected To Be Lower as the Result of a Slump in Demand

The price of raw sugar dropped to 6 1/4 cents a pound on the local market yesterday, 3/4 of a cent under the lowest quotation of last week and a new low price for the season. The price reflects a further slackening of demand and is a decrease of 17 cents from the highest of the season's quotations, last May.

Local refineries report a continued decreasing demand for sugar and sweetened products of all kinds, both for domestic and export consumption, which, they say, is expected to result in prompt reductions in retail prices.

Hylan Called To Testify on Building Bids

(Continued from page one)

expected to give the details of the transaction at to-morrow's hearing.

The Additional Grand Jury, that is giving all of its time to the criminal phase of the investigation, examined more witnesses and adjourned until to-morrow. It is reported that additional indictments may be handed down. The indictment of George S. Backer, the millionaire contractor, is the only one so far made public.

Letter to the Mayor

Mr. Undermyer's letter to the Mayor reads, in part:

"I gather from your statement as reported in the newspapers of Monday morning and from the endless stream of interviews emitted by your irrepressibly garrulous and publicity-mad Commissioner of Accounts that you regard certain assertions of fact contained in a letter from me to the Controller as unfair to you in the particulars indicated in your statement.

"Nothing is further from my wish or intention or that of the committee than to do you or your administration or any other person an injustice. In order to avoid just such a contingency it was announced at the opening of the hearings, at my request, that the policy of the committee would be that whenever a fact is brought to its attention to the prejudice of any person the taking of further testimony must be suspended so as to afford the person so affected instantaneous and full opportunity for explanation.

"In view of your public statement, the committee is desirous of now invoking that rule in your case and of extending to you the same invitation that has been uniformly offered others. It has accordingly been arranged that when the committee reconvenes on Thursday, the 11th inst., at 10 o'clock you will be promptly and fully heard. Having regard to the concluding paragraph of

your statement, we have the right to assume and have assumed that this arrangement will be entirely satisfactory to you.

Calls for Correspondence

"Perhaps you will be good enough to bring with you from the files of your office any correspondence and other data, if any, that you may have relating to or concerning communications with Messrs. Brindell, Hettrick and others and with any branch or officials of the city government bearing on the making or execution of bids or contracts for the Courthouse, the schools and for other public work during the last two years of your administration.

"The committee is satisfied that this will afford the best and most expeditious means of clarifying the situation and you may rest assured that if any wrong has been done any one it will by this means promptly right itself in the public mind.

"I ought perhaps to add that knowing what I do and what I feel, you and your subordinates should have known as to the collusive character of many of the accepted bids for public work, I am personally more than ever satisfied that the contracts based on such bids should not have been made and should now be canceled and payments withheld, but the committee, as well as an open mind.

"We shall expect you on Thursday morning. Very truly yours,

"SAMUEL UNDERMYER."

Letter to Brindell

The first letter to Brindell in which Undermyer charges the Commissioner of Accounts with indulging in "self advertising schemes" and clogging up the work of the committee with his "town gossip and petty junk," follows, in part:

"November 9, 1920.

"I greatly regret to have to reply to your disingenuous letter of yesterday, with its inclosure, in the terms that it so richly merits, but my time and energies are just now too heavily taxed with serious business to permit them to be diverted by your endless self advertising schemes, of which this is one.

"I fear that you lack a sense of proportion and have thus far failed to grasp the broad and constructive purposes of the inquiry. The affidavit of Conners, of which you yesterday sent me a copy, after distributing it to all the newspapers as though it were a piece of valuable evidence discovered by you, is of the most trifling and inconsequential value, besides, being largely hearsay and inadmissible.

"If the committee were to receive this sort of 'town gossip and petty

junk,' which forms a considerable part of the Conners affidavit, and were so unjust as to lend to it the force and dignity of evidence, the committee would become a general dumping ground for every one with a grievance, would do untold injury to innocent people and would be in session for years, besides which the real purpose of the inquiry would be buried in a mass of trifling and immaterial side issues. It purposes to hew rigidly to the line for which it was appointed.

"If understand you are a lawyer by profession and I know that you have whiled away many idle though doubtless pleasant hours as a spectator at the hearings of the committee. You must therefore have observed that there has not been a day when competent and direct evidence of importance has been presented covering the identical subject matter of the incompetent hearsay gossip detailed in the Conners affidavit.

Begs Him to Desist

"May I suggest that the best and only service you can be of any service to this committee is by ceasing your mischievous interference with our work. If the Mayor cannot or does not stop you other means must be found. Knowing nothing of our plans you persist in a course proving most detrimental. I hesitate to believe you are acting from design and prefer to adopt the more charitable view that the mainsprings of your activities are ignorance and self-exploitation. I again ask you to stop. Yours truly,

"SAMUEL UNDERMYER."

Letter to Hettrick

The letter to Hettrick reads:

"November 9, 1920.

"An afternoon paper contains the announcement that you are now sojourning at your country home in New Jersey, beyond the reach of a subpoena from the committee, and that you deny that you are evading the process of the committee.

"I beg to remind you of the fact that your testimony is uncompleted and that you are still under subpoena. Notwithstanding this fact and that repeated calls were made for you at the hearing and at your office we were told that you had not recently visited your office and were unable to find any way of communicating with you.

"We should be pleased, however, to take your reported statement at its face value and to have you appear and continue your testimony at the next meeting of the committee on Thursday next at 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

"Yours truly,

"SAMUEL UNDERMYER."

Hirshfeld Again Rebuked

The second letter to Brindell appears to have been called forth by Brindell's disclosure of the testimony of Mr. Sherwin. It reads:

"Since writing you this afternoon I find from the newspapers that in your insatiable mania for self-advertising you continue to embarrass and obstruct the work of the committee. Your last offense is the premature publication of the details of a transac-

tion into which you intruded to the detriment of the inquiry.

"The only way you can be of any service to this committee is by ceasing your mischievous interference with our work. If the Mayor cannot or does not stop you other means must be found. Knowing nothing of our plans you persist in a course proving most detrimental. I hesitate to believe you are acting from design and prefer to adopt the more charitable view that the mainsprings of your activities are ignorance and self-exploitation. I again ask you to stop. Yours truly,

"SAMUEL UNDERMYER."

The letter to Hettrick was occasioned by the report that he had been located at his summer home at Sea Bright, N. J., yesterday. The committee had been looking for him several days, but was unable to find him, his office having been cleared of all furniture.

When asked if he would appear before the committee to-morrow Hettrick said, "I decline to talk." He added, however, that counsel for the committee knew where he was, had his telephone number, and that he had made no secret of his whereabouts. This was flatly denied by the committee's counsel yesterday.

According to neighbors Hettrick has been at his summer home all summer. Recently he bought additional property adjoining it. It is said that he and Mrs. Hettrick have been taking long walks daily, and have not kept in the background, despite the fact that he was reported missing.

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In connection with the latest dis-

coveries of alleged bribery, Commissioner of Accounts Brindell said, Mr. Sherwin testified that Brindell expected to get 1/2 of 1 per cent on all the Staten Island pier work. The aggregate cost of these jobs is said to be \$16,250,000, 1/2 of 1 per cent of which is \$81,250.

Craig Sees Undermyer

Comptroller Craig was in conference with Mr. Undermyer yesterday on the matter of city contracts said to be based on collusive bidding. The Comptroller later made public a letter to the committee's counsel in which was inclosed additional information on the same subject.

Mr. Craig draws particular attention to facts in connection with the New town High School. He declares that, while the school building was projected in May, 1916, at an estimated cost of \$399,187, various causes have contributed to raise the cost to \$986,700. This sum \$59,884 has been paid, but the building is not finished.

The weekly meeting of the Brindell Building Trades Council scheduled for yesterday at its headquarters at 12 St. Mark's Place did not take place. It was reported by members that no more sessions would be held, pointing to a probable dissolution of the organization.

Joseph Kelly, vice-president of the United Brotherhood of Painters and Decorators of America, said yesterday that the membership of his body is anxious to know what action is going to be taken against Brindell at the quarterly meeting of the building trades department of the American Federation of Labor in Washington to-morrow.

He referred to the efforts of John Donlin, head of this department, to have Brindell's charter revoked because of the latter's efforts to break the painters' organization in revenge for its refusal to join his council.

Mistrial in Furey Case

New Jury Summoned After Defense Finds Friends in Box

When it was discovered that Randolph Newman, counsel for Edward H. Furey, on trial for extortion in the Court of General Sessions yesterday, was acquainted with two of the jurors selected to try the case, Judge Otto Rosalsky immediately declared a mistrial. The work of selecting another jury was started at once and the trial will proceed to-day.

Furey, who also is under indictment in connection with the bond thefts from the financial district, was placed on trial Monday. When the mistrial was announced, Furey remarked: "Well, what the hell do you know about that? Back to the Tombs for me."

When the jury was being selected, Assistant District Attorney John T. Dooling neglected to ask the men if they were acquainted with the attorney for the defense.



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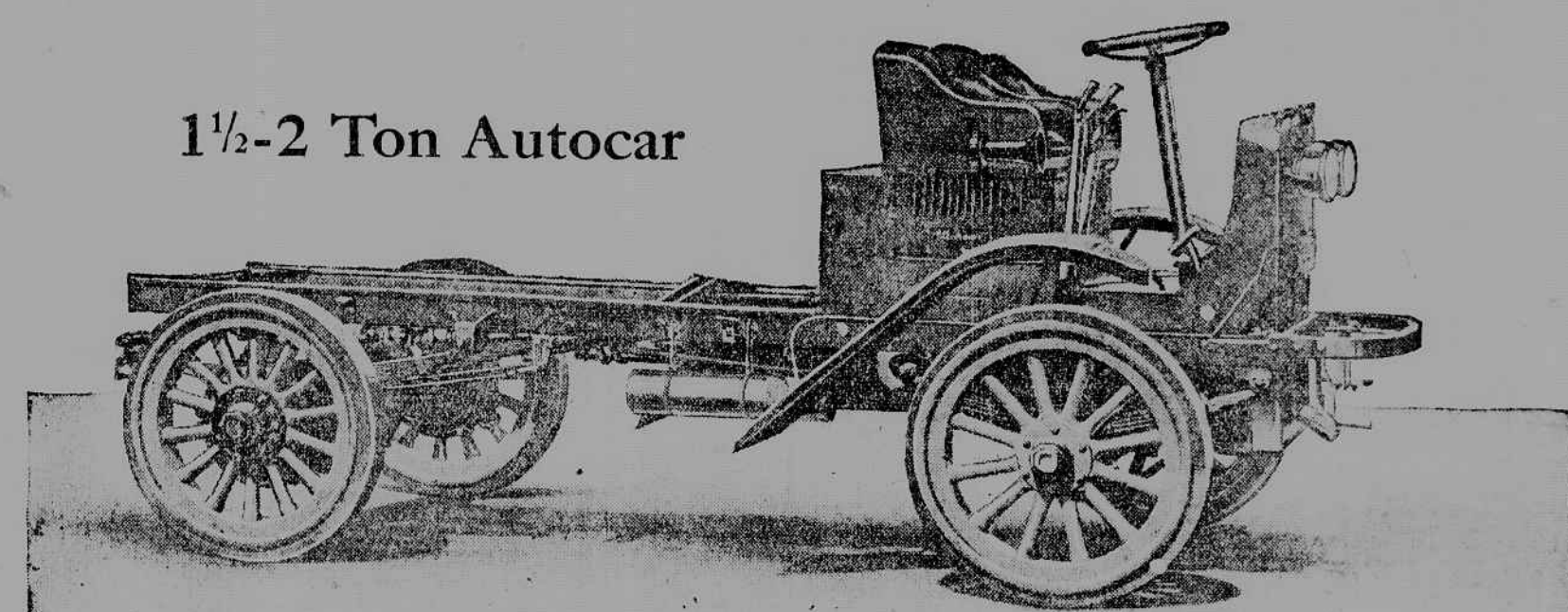
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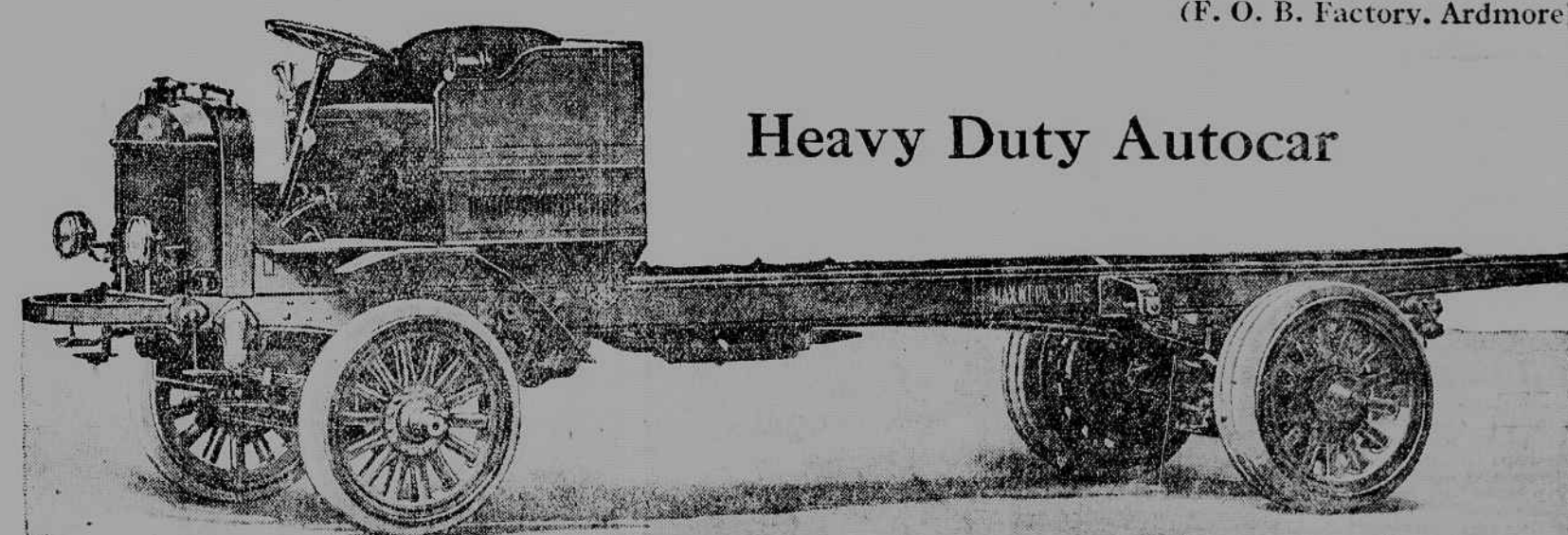
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